Docket No.: 28682/38519

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Utility Application of:

Kazunobu Maruo et al.

Application No.: 10/743,115 Confirmation No.: 8485

Filed: December 22, 2003 Art Unit: 1796

For: OLIGOMER-MODIFIED LAYERED

INORGANIC COMPOUNDS AND THEIR USE

IN NANOCOMPOSITES

Examiner: V. M. Nerangis

## **AMENDMENT AFTER RCE**

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.